

Administrator – Acting
Jolaine Johnson & Leo Drozdoff

(775) 687-4670

Administration
Facsimile 687-5856

Water Quality Planning
Water Pollution Control
Facsimile 687-4684

Mining Regulations & Reclamation
Facsimile 684-5259

State of Nevada
KENNY C. GUINN
Governor



ALLEN BIAGGI, Director

Air Pollution Control
Air Quality Planning
Facsimile 687-6396

Waste Management
Federal Facilities

Corrective Actions
Facsimile 687-8335

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706

October 15, 2004

Notice Of Decision Water Pollution Control Permit Number Nev0091029 For The North Block Project

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection has decided to issue Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0091029 to Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc. This permit authorizes the construction, operation, and closure of the approved facilities. The Division has been provided with sufficient information, in accordance with NAC 445A.350 through NAC 445A.447, to assure the Division that the groundwater quality will not be degraded by this operation and that public safety and health will be protected.

This permit will become effective October 30, 2004. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 445A.605 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.407. All requests for appeals must be filed by 5pm, October 25, 2004 on Form 3 with the State Environmental Commission, 333 West Nye Lane, Capitol Complex, Carson City, Nevada 89706. For more information, contact Bob Carlson at (775) 687-9401, toll free in Nevada at (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit the Bureau's website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm>.

Responses to comments received during the public notice period are presented below:

State of Nevada – Department of Wildlife, dated September 3, 2004: At this time the Nevada Department of Wildlife supports renewal of the Water Pollution Control Permit for the North Block Project.

NDEP Response: Comment is noted.

Elko County Board of Commissioners, dated September 29, 2004: Elko County supports the renewal of a water pollution control permit to Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc. for the North Block Project. We believe this project will cause minimal impact to the area and will be in keeping with the County Commission's position of wise multiple use of public lands.

NDEP Response: Comment is noted.